

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Quality
Water Quality Certification Program

**Public Notice
Of Application for Water Quality Certification**

Pursuant to federal law (Title 33, United States Code, Section 1341; Clean Water Act Section 401), applicants for a federal license or permit for activities which may discharge to waters of the United States must seek Water Quality Certification from the state or Indian tribe with jurisdiction. Such Certification is based on a finding that the discharge will meet water quality standards and other applicable requirements. In California, Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Board) issue or deny Certification for discharges within their geographical jurisdiction. The State Water Resources Control Board has this responsibility for projects affecting waters within multiple RWQCB jurisdictions. The following information is provided in satisfaction of the public notice requirements of Section 3858, Title 23, of the California Code of Regulations, which govern the State's Certification Program.

Applicant: County of San Diego,
California Department of Public Works
5555 Overland Avenue, Suite 2188
San Diego, CA 92123-1295

Applicant Contact: Malia Durand
Telephone: (858) 874-4068
Email: Malia.Durand@sdcounty.ca.gov

Project Name: US Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District Office, Regional General Permit No. 53 – Flood Control Maintenance

Date of Application: 5/5/2009

The US Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District proposes to re-issue Regional General Permit No. 53 for flood control maintenance activities for the County of San Diego, Department of Public Works. The general permit allows periodic, routine maintenance, including debris, vegetation and/or sediment removal, of culverts, bridges, and other facilities, to prevent flooding of either adjacent roadways or dwellings throughout the County of San Diego, including all unincorporated areas maintained by the County.

The project also proposes to establish an additional mitigation site as mitigation for these routine maintenance activities. The additional mitigation site is located on a 1.78 acre parcel on the San Diego River near the intersections of West Hills Parkway and Highway 52 in the City of Santee. Non-native species onsite will be removed and replaced with native wetland and riparian vegetation. The Sweetwater River Offsite Mitigation Site (SOMA) will continue to be used as mitigation until all available credits have been used.

Water Board staff are proposing to regulate this project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) and/or Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act

authority. In addition, staff will consider all comments submitted in writing and received at this office by mail during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this letter and ends at 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the comment period. If you have any questions, please contact staff member Darren Bradford at (916) 341-5558, or at dbradford@waterboards.ca.gov, or Bill Orme at (916) 341-5464, or at borme@waterboards.ca.gov within 21 days of the posting of this notice.

State Water Resources

Control Board Staff Contact:

Darren Bradford, Environmental Scientist
Water Quality Certification and Wetlands Unit,
Division of Water Quality
State Water Resources Control Board
Fax: 916- 341- 5808

Note: No regulatory decision on the application is implied or intended in this public notice.